

Vol. V

Ann Arbor, Summer, 1959

No. 2

**A NEW COOPERATIVE PROJECT;
FILM IN ROLLS OR JACKETS:
U. S. CHEMICAL PATENTS**

University Microfilms has recently concluded an agreement with Information for Industry, Inc., which will provide for the microfilming of U. S. chemical patents.

For several years Information for Industry has been issuing a Uniterm Index of these patents, but until now no provision has been made for supplying the patents themselves to librarians as a part of this service.

University Microfilms now proposes to microfilm all of the patents, which will be issued quarterly as roll microfilm at \$275.00 per year, or as unitized microfilm in properly identified acetate jackets at \$450.00 per year. The patents will be arranged in order, so that those who subscribe to the Uniterm Index will be able to retrieve particular patents quickly.

The microfilmed patents take very little space. Based on 24,000 pages, there will be about 12 rolls of 35mm film, or 3,000 jackets, delivered annually. The jackets stack about 30 to the inch, and can be stored in any 3 x 5 inch file.

To read the microfilm a viewer is needed, and either the Eastman MPE at \$475.00 (for the film) or the Griscombe KE 24 (for the jackets) is suitable. Positive film will be furnished in all cases unless negative is specified by the purchaser. There is no additional charge for negative microfilm.

Further information concerning Information for Industry and the Uniterm method of coordinate indexing is available from that firm at 1000 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Shipment of 1959 patents will begin immediately on receipt of orders, and will be made every quarter. Payment may be made on an annual basis or on a quarterly basis. Quarterly rates are \$70.00 per quarter for the roll film and \$115.00 per quarter for the jacketed film. This works out to about 3-1/2 cents per patent for the roll film, and 7-1/2 cents each for the unitized film. [ED]

**NEW RUSSIAN-
LANGUAGE SERIES**

By William B. Ballis

Because of the rapidly increasing interest in Soviet materials in this country, the problem of acquiring basic Russian-language works is becoming increasingly acute. Many important earlier works are out of print and are virtually unobtainable anywhere.

The announcement that University Microfilms will reproduce basic out-of-print Russian works by microfilm and Xerography is something which scholars will receive with great enthusiasm. The Five Hundred Russian Works for College Libraries compiled by Sergius Yakobson and published by the American Council of Learned Societies in 1948 is the most valuable selected bibliography of Russian works in the humanities and social science fields.

The difficulty of libraries has been their inability to procure these titles in the used book market. Many of these works were published in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and although all are in the Library of Congress and some of them are in libraries in the main centers of Russian studies, many institutions with sizeable libraries still have only a fraction of the list in their collections.

The titles in the Yakobson Five Hundred comprise general reference books, works on language, folklore, literature, art, music and drama, history of culture and ideas, social history, political history, economics and law. These works include unusually important items in the field of Russian studies, and are all basic works for advanced students in economics, history, political science, geography, languages and literature, who are being trained in Russian studies.

Among the specific items in the collection are out-of-print dictionaries and encyclopedias, extremely valuable to students of Russia and the Soviet Union. The early Bolshevik encyclopedias are no longer available because of reinterpretation of history and culture by the Communist

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MICROCOSM is a publication of University Microfilms, Inc., with central offices at 313 No. First Street., Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MICROCOSM is intended to bring interesting news of microfilming in all of its phases to the attention of librarians and others who, in the opinion of the publisher, will benefit by receiving it.

If you would like to receive MICROCOSM regularly, please send a postal card with your name and address to:

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The Educational Theatre Journal
On Microfilm

by Henry Goodman

The Educational Theatre Journal, published quarterly for the American Educational Theatre Association, appeared for the first time in October, 1949. In a Foreword to that initial number Barnard Hewitt, the editor, wrote that the first issue... marks the realization of hopes long expressed by members of the American Educational Theatre Association that it might establish a publication which would serve the field of educational theatre and drama as the Quarterly Journal of Speech serves the field of speech, and as PMLA serves the field of modern languages."

Today, short of a decade later, ETJ has more than realized its usefulness to the academic theatre and to the wider community of the theatre outside the schools. ETJ should therefore enjoy increased usefulness with the announcement by University Microfilms that all back and current issues are now available on microfilm.

The theatre is the gathering place of many disciplines and studies. No man can work alone in the theatre, and no single kind of study can express the many sides of this institution. The wide range of studies in any one issue of ETJ testifies to the diversity of this art which is many arts: for example, studies of the scenes and machines of past and present stages; of the varieties of costume practices; of the actor and director at work; of music in the production; and of the changing theatre building.

That the theatre belongs to the lonely domain of the scholar as well as to the crowded world of 'shows' is certified by the numerous articles on theatre history, dramatic literature and criticism, playwrights and playwriting, and aesthetics which have made ETJ so rich a source of studies for students and teachers. The roster of distinguished scholars who have contributed to this periodical continues to grow; these are but a few: George A. Altman, Barrett H. Clark, Alan S. Downer, John Gassner, Mordecai Gorelik, George R. Kernodle, H. D. F. Kitto, Kenneth Macgowan, William W. Melnitz, Henry Schnitzler,

Interest in the international stage is manifested in articles on world theatre by Mr. Schnitzler, Eugene H. Bahn, Earle Ernst, and others. And the perennial concern for the 'drama major' in the liberal arts program is taken up by Mr. Kernodle, Hubert Heffner, and B. Iden Payne.

What of the professional theatre in New York? That is represented most handsomely in the regular feature, "Broadway in Review," in which John Gassner reports on and analyzes the current offering in the nation's theatre center.

Other regular features in ETJ are reports on doctoral projects in progress in theatre arts (Albert E. Johnson), graduate theses in theatre (Franklin H. Knower), college and university productions (Theodore Harlen), and numerous other reports from the all-important AETA Projects.

Publication of directories of American colleges and universities offering training in the theatre arts, directories of Summer theatres, reports on contests and festivals, publication of contract placement notices, and reports on the conventions of the Association are among the important services rendered to AETA members through the Journal. In charge of the entire publication is the current editor, James H. Clancy.

Altogether, ETJ is a very rich and experienced journal for one so young. It continues to grow in purpose and fulfillment. One more advance for this journal and for educational theatre, is the microfilm edition.

NEWSPAPER DIVISION,
SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

Special Libraries Association met for its 50th Annual Convention May 31-June 4, at Chalfonte-Haddon Hotel on the Boardwalk of Atlantic City, N. J. Among the sub-divisions was the Newspaper Division, this being its 36th Annual Conference.

Although only 130 newspaper librarians from all sections of the United States and Canada are members, they are making an effort through their pooling of ideas and research opportunities to aid one another in providing greater service and economy, not only to their respective newspapers but also to the many librarians not quite so fortunate as to be SLA members, who are continuously asking for help and ideas to enable them to do a better job.

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RECORDAK SHOWS NEW READER FOR COMMERCIAL FILM



Three important features are embodied in the new "Lodestar" viewer recently displayed by the Recordak Corporation at the National Microfilm Association meeting in Washington.

The microfilm is inserted into the viewer while entirely encased in a plastic magazine, and can not be removed until the film has been completely rewound in the plastic magazine once more. Thus the user never touches the microfilm itself.

The microfilm is coded according to a predetermined code for the rapid retrieval of information contained in the film. Code lines are exposed between document pages on the microfilm as these are being filmed. A matching code scale beside the screen of the viewer guides the user to the proper document. At present only 16mm film can be used, and the documents must be in film position 1B (one page per exposure with the lines of type parallel to the long axis of the film). Recordak's Reliant (rotary) camera is the one generally used, but a planetary camera can be adapted for the microfilming and coding, according to Recordak company officers in attendance at the meeting.

Once the user has located the proper film magazine and code number for the document to be retrieved, he inserts the magazine into the viewer and moves the control lever. The screen lights automatically and the motor drives the film through the reader at speeds of up to 10 feet per second until the document being searched is reached.

Recordak engineers worked with representatives of Sears, Roebuck and Co. for more than three years to perfect the Lodestar system. It was originally designed for parts list applications, and was not commercially available until Sears installations had been completed. Commercial applications are seen for parts lists, credit reference installations, etc.

Further information concerning the Lodestar may be had from University Microfilms, a Recordak dealer. There will undoubtedly be ways in which this system can be applied to the search and retrieval problems found in libraries and research installations, in the future. ED

NEWSPAPER DIVISION [from page 2]

The personal contact with others in their line of work is difficult to find outside SLA Newspaper Division. Knowing librarians who can call upon their own working experience to aid a newcomer—or an "old timer" who is constantly searching for a better method—is considered one of the most valuable aspects of the organization. Although the heavily scheduled program allows little time for leisure, Newspaper Division members manage to take time over meals and at the day's end to discuss more personal library procedures and gather ideas that make their library more workable and usable.

This past convention was highlighted by workshop discussions of "Current Newspaper Library Methods and Problems," "Basic Steps in Organizing a Picture File," "Work Standards," and "Planning in Newspaper Libraries." Final convention day was spent in Philadelphia, where members became acquainted with procedures at the Evening and Sunday Bulletin and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Newspaper Division officers elected for the 1960 convention, to be held in Cleveland in early June of next year, include Chairman Chester W. Sanger, Christian Science Monitor; Vice-Chairman David A. Rhydwen, Toronto Globe and Mail; and Secretary-Treasurer Miss Mary Jo Hatfield, Peoria (Ills.) Journal Star. Newly appointed membership chairman for the coming year is Miss Mary Welch, Reference Library, Boston Globe, 135 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston 7, Massachusetts.

[Nearly all daily and weekly newspapers are now being microfilmed, and for this reason, if for no other, we feel a special kinship with newspaper librarians. With the thought that MICROCOSM readers are as interested as we are in knowing about specialized library problems, we asked for this brief report, which was furnished by Mary Jo Hatfield. Others will be published later.] ED

RUSSIAN SERIES [from page 1]

party. These encyclopedias are mines of information about the development of the USSR and its leading personalities. Pre-revolution encyclopedias are also available in this list. The works of distinguished scholars in geography such as L. S. Berg and S. P. Suslov, historians like V. Kliuchevskii, economists like I. M. Kulisher and M. L. Tugan-Baranovskii, jurists like A. I. Denisov, E. B. Pashukanis and L. Petrazhitiskii are just a few among the plethora of important books.

The Association of Research Libraries, in a report on Russian and East European publications in American libraries, has recommended that this collection of Soviet Russian works be made available as a package so that libraries desiring to build up Russian collections can acquire these works if they are reproduced. The Xerox process as used by University Microfilms will enable these works to be individually or collectively purchased. This will do as much for building up Russian collections throughout the country as any single event in the Russian Studies library field. ED

PERIODICAL STORAGE SAVED BY FILM

Approximately 75 percent of the material published in the United States is in periodical form. It follows that for many libraries 75 percent of their storage problem originates from this flood of literature which comes each day, week, month and quarter.

It is a characteristic of material of this sort that the use is greatest immediately following publication and then falls off sharply after the first year or so, at which time the consultation of any given volume may be very infrequent (but perhaps very important). Often what is not realized is that the storage costs of the periodical files, however often used, are cumulative. For example, if storage costs 20 cents per volume per year this cost is increased by 20 cents each year for each new volume added; i.e., 20 cents the first year, 40 cents for the second, and finally to \$2.00 for the tenth year. But the cumulative cost for all the volumes is 60 cents for the second year, \$11.00 for the ten-year period.

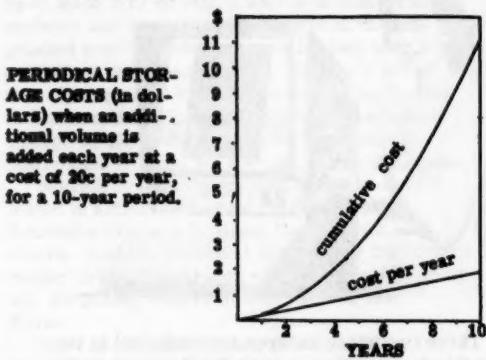
A further characteristic is that most of our periodicals are printed on paper which will deteriorate in 50 to 60 years. So after we have spent sizeable sums to store a file which is used relatively infrequently we ultimately end with a handful of crumpled fragments.

How is microfilm a solution? Just this way: the 1200 titles which we list may be purchased by subscribers to the paper edition for a cost approximating the cost of binding the paper edition. Under the UM plan the library circulates the current issues unbound; thus during the period of greatest use each issue has its maximum availability.

After a year or more, when the use tapers off, the microfilm copy, purchased with the funds that would otherwise have been used for binding, is substituted for the paper copies, which are then discarded with no loss of library service and at an actual saving in the library's regular budget because of the saving of up to 95 percent of periodical storage space. In addition the library has a per-

manent copy which is less susceptible to mutilation than a bound file.

For ten years we have been saving library storage space by supplying librarians with microfilm copies of current periodicals.



EDN

A few years ago one would hardly have considered the reproduction of a series of works primarily in the Russian language. With the increasing emphasis on Russian and the Soviet way of life, such a project has become a realistic one, the practicality and value of which is emphasized in the article by Professor William R. Ballis of the University of Michigan's Political Science department, which appears on page 1. Professor Ballis is chairman of the University of Michigan's Russian Studies committee.

University Microfilms plans to microfilm most of the titles listed by Sergius Yakobson in his Five Hundred Russian Works for College Libraries. Some of the works will be eliminated from the series to avoid the duplication of works readily accessible to most scholars.

Libraries may subscribe to the entire microfilm series, or to separate titles reproduced by Xerography. As soon as these works have been surveyed, an announcement will be made in MICRO COSM.

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